24 February 2016

Brenda Langley, Director of Operations
School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science
Oregon State University
1148 Kelley Engineering Center
Corvallis, OR 97331-5501

Dear Ms. Langley,

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is seeking a new Computer Scientist to work with the Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP), based at the Cascades Volcano Observatory (CVO) in Vancouver, WA, and conducting work with partner institutions worldwide. This is a permanent full-time position with full federal benefits and represents a unique opportunity for a computer scientist to apply his or her expertise and lead the development of software and computer systems that contribute to the rewarding field of volcano hazard science, eruption forecasting, and disaster mitigation. This is an open competitive position that requires a degree in computer science and technical experience as outlined in the advertisement. The position does not require a degree or expertise in the earth sciences. The enclosed job advertisement provides more details about the position as well as links to our websites and the online job application process. Applications will be accepted from 28 March through 11 April 2016.

We would appreciate your help by posting the enclosed job advertisement in your department and drawing the attention of alumni, graduate students, and Bachelor’s students who will finish their degrees this year. A digital version of the advertisement is available at: http://tinyurl.com/hdzqumn

Best regards,

[Signature]

Dr. John S. Pallister
Chief, USGS-USAID Volcano Disaster Assistance Program
See us on the web at: http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/vdap/
Volcano Computer Scientist Job

Overview: Are you a computer-scientist who has a passion for building high-quality software with real-world humanitarian applications? Do you want to use your computer-science skills to save lives and improve the understanding of volcanic processes?

Position: The US Geological Survey, Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP), a 30-year partnership of the U.S. Geological Survey and USAID’s Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance announces the posting of a new professional job opportunity to lead the development of new software and computer-science applications for international volcano monitoring and hazard analysis. This is a permanent federal position that is based at the Cascades Volcano Observatory in Vancouver, WA, USA. The position is will be filled at either the GS-12 ($74,950/yr to $97,434/yr) or GS-13 ($89,125/yr to $115,867/yr) level depending on qualifications. The position includes federal provisions for tenure- and merit-based promotions, health and life insurance and annual and sick leave among other benefits (see http://www.usgs.gov/humancapital/pb/index.html).

Responsibilities: Design, develop, document and maintain custom open-source software to monitor and analyze multi-parametric monitoring data from active volcanoes world-wide. Serve as the lead computer scientist for a small team of 20 professional scientists and technicians who respond to volcano crises world-wide and assist international partners in forecasting eruptions and assessing volcanic hazards. Write new code and review existing source code to identify and solve problems and to improve human-machine interfaces. Train international partners in use of computer systems.

Requirements: Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science or a Bachelor’s Degree with 30 semester hours in mathematics, statistics and computer science with at least 15 of the 30 semester hours in any combination of mathematics and statistics and including differential and integral calculus. 1. Expertise in software coding and data processing on multiple operating systems using the programming languages Java and C. Python or other object-oriented languages are also desired. 2. Knowledge of computer science and system design as needed to develop and document new computer systems (e.g., software for data acquisition, analysis and storage with effective human computer interfaces (HCI). 3. Knowledge of relational database programming and theory. 4. Ability to design computer interface and communication systems (e.g., TCP/IP, multi-OS communications, data bus communication and serial (USB, RS232) protocols). 5. Knowledge of physical sciences or mathematics. 6. Ability to communicate effectively with project personnel and international counterparts in order to document and transfer knowledge of computer systems.

The organization: More information about the U.S. Geological Survey and the VDAP program is available at: http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/VDAP/. More information about this positions and job applications will be available starting on 03/28/2016 by searching for the position numbered SAC-2016-0136 at the following website: https://www.usajobs.gov. Applications must be received digitally through this website before midnight EST on 04/11/2016 and must include scanned copies of undergraduate (and graduate if applicable) transcripts. USGS is an equal opportunity employer; however, the position is open to U.S. Citizens only.